ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5   In wireless networks, data objects are typically transferred from a data distributor to a data recipient by reliable point-to-point communication between the distributor and the recipient. However, the time to transfer data by point-to-point communication can become excessive if the number of recipients is large. Efficient and reliable data transfer is provided by a system incorporating broadcast

10   and point-to-point communication topologies. The data is initially broadcast to all recipients. Data broadcasting is followed by polling the recipients. If the data missing after a broadcast can be transferred in less time by point-to-point communication then that topology is chosen to complete the transfer. If not, the missing data is broadcast again to all recipients. The efficiency of the broadcast

15   phase can be improved by designating a representative to acknowledge successful data transfer on behalf of all recipients. A most suitable representative of all recipients can be selected by comparing missing data for each recipient to the missing data of all other recipients.